(b) what are the broad plans in this regard and what is the amount of Central assistance offered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The Central Government has not received any proposal for the development of Sanghol village as a tourist centre, from the Government of Punjab.

(b) Does not arise.

Periodicals and journals published by Indian Missions abroad

*309. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of periodicals and journals published by the Indian Embassies and High Commissions in USA, USSR, Commonwealth and West Asian countries, language-wise during the last three years; and

(b) what is the circulation of these journals and periodicals during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The information which is of statistical nature is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the house in due course.

Afforestation programme

*310. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the afforestation programme is not yielding good results as envisaged in spite of crores of rupees being spent under the said programme; and

(b) whether Government propose to follow the pattern adopted by China in the field of afforestation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The pattern that we should follow in our country should be suited to local conditions; we can, however, derive benefit from the experience of other countries to the extent that it is applicable to our conditions

Agitation by cotton growers in Maharashtra

*311. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the agitation by cotton growers in Maharashtra led by Shri Sharad Joshi for a remunerative price for cotton;

(b) if so, what are their demand for cotton price per quintal; and

(c) what price, the Central Government or the State Government agreed to give on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Shetkari Sanghathana has demanded that guaranteed prices under the Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme being operated by the Government of Maharashtra through the Maharashtra State Cooperative Growers Marketing Federation should be the minimum support prices fixed by the Government of India plus 25 per cent.

(c) The Central Government have given extension to the Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme on the condition that the farmers are paid guaranteed prices which are the same as the minimum support prices fixed by the Government of India for different varieties of cotton.